

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1088

By Cooper

A RESOLUTION to recognize Dr. Kennard D. Brown, Fourth Annual Living Legend Awards honoree.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we should specially recognize those estimable individuals who have dedicated their time and energies toward enhancing the quality of life in their communities; and

WHEREAS, one such individual is Dr. Kennard D. Brown, who is being honored at the Fourth Annual Living Legend Awards in recognition of the leadership and service he has provided to the people of Shelby County; and

WHEREAS, as the Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief Operations Officer (EVC/COO) of the University of Tennessee Health Science Center (UTHSC) since 2004, Dr. Brown serves as the chief administrative and operations officer for the UTHSC campus with responsibility for providing leadership in the day-to-day operations of the forty-acre campus in Memphis; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Kennard Brown grew up in Hayti, Missouri, and Chicago, Illinois, and credits his parents with instilling in him the importance of education; after graduating from high school, he enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps in 1974 and honorably served until 1980 as a Special Intelligence System Administrator; and

WHEREAS, relocating to Memphis, Dr. Brown enrolled in the University of Memphis, from which he received a bachelor's degree in psychology with an emphasis in criminal justice in 1988, and Southwest Tennessee Community College, where he earned an associate degree that same year; and

WHEREAS, from 1990 to 1995, Dr. Kennard Brown worked as a postal inspector for the U.S. Postal Service's narcotics task force in Miami, Florida, before returning to Memphis to

enroll in the Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law, where he went on to earn a Juris Doctor degree in 1998; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Brown received a Master of Public Administration (MPA) degree from the University of Memphis in 2001 and a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Health Science Administration from the University of Tennessee Health Science Center in Memphis in 2007; he also attended the Executive Management Development Program at Harvard University in Boston, Massachusetts, and has been a Fellow of the American College of Health Care Executives since 2012; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure as EVC/COO at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center, Dr. Kennard Brown has led the organizational restructuring of the center's administrative operational units and played a pivotal role in the development of the first UTHSC Campus Master and Strategic Planning effort, culminating in capital expenditures in excess of \$400 million for new construction over the last eight years; and

WHEREAS, he has also served as the primary liaison and hospital/physician practice group alignment strategist at UTHSC and has been either directly responsible for or supported the development of institutional international collaborations for academic and research partnerships with Saudi Arabia; Beirut, Lebanon; Bulgaria; Vietnam; Singapore; and China; and

WHEREAS, a highly accomplished professional, Dr. Brown currently serves as Executive Administrator of the West Tennessee Regional Forensic Center; Executive Administrator of the Plough Center for Sterile Drug Delivery Solutions; a member of the University Clinical Health Board of Directors; a member of the Region One Health System Board of Directors; and a member of the University of Memphis Master of Health Administration Program Advisory Board, as well as the University of Tennessee/Oak Ridge National Laboratory Joint Institute for Computational Sciences Advanced Computing Facility Institutional Advisory Board; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Kennard Brown previously served as Director of the Office of Equity and Diversity and Director of Employee Relations and Staff Development at UTHSC from 1998 to 2004, and he was a member of the University of Tennessee Research Foundation Board of Directors from 2013 to 2016; a member of the Methodist Hospital Foundation Board of Directors from 2010 to 2011; a member of the Church Health Center Board of Directors from 2009 to 2010; and Executive Director for the Center for Health Disparities from 2001 to 2002; and

WHEREAS, his notable faculty assignments include terms as Assistant Professor, Department of Surgery, Transplant Institute at UTHSC, College of Medicine, where he has served since 2008, and Assistant Professor, UTHSC, College of Pharmacy, in which capacity he has served since 2004; and

WHEREAS, prior positions include serving as an adjunct professor at the University of Memphis, Department of Criminology/Criminal Justice from 1995 to 2000; adjunct professor of the Tennessee Pre-Law Fellowship Program at Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law in 1999; and law clerk for the University of Tennessee Health Science Center, Office of General Counsel from 1997 to 1998; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to accolades, Dr. Brown is the recipient of numerous honors, including the UTHSC Faculty Senate Administrator of the Year Award in 2007; the IMHOTEP Award in 2007; the Faculty Senate Exceptional Meritorious Achievement Award in 2009; the Memphis Crisis Center Independence Award in 2009; the *Tri-State Defender* Man of Excellence Award in 2009; the Tennessee Kidney Foundation Civic Award in 2010; the Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity African American Male Image Award in 2010; the Faculty Senate Exceptional Meritorious Achievement Award in 2012; the Faculty Senate Administrator of the Year Award in 2017; the *Memphis Business Journal* Health Care Hero for Administrative Excellence Award in 2017; and the Healthy Memphis Common Table Visionary Leadership Award in 2018; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, Dr. Kennard Brown has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity; his commitment to excellence and community service is representative of the Volunteer State, and he should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we congratulate Dr. Kennard D. Brown upon his recognition at the Fourth Annual Living Legend Awards, applaud his outstanding community leadership, salute his professional expertise and personal excellence, and extend our best wishes for continued success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.